



## Architectural Designer Job Description

Better Block Foundation is a nonprofit organization that empowers communities and their leaders to reshape their built environments to promote the growth of healthy and vibrant neighborhoods. The Architectural Designer should understand and embrace this mission, and have a genuine passion for urban innovation and bettering cities.

### Position (located in Dallas, Texas)

We believe beautiful design can change the world. We are seeking someone who not only holds the same belief but has also demonstrated his/her ability to bring it to fruition.

Reporting to the Managing Director, the Architectural Designer will oversee the implementation, development, and future of our Wikiblock library. The person will also be responsible for the graphic design of all our print and marketing materials. We are seeking a person who has a background in sculpture, furniture design, and/or graphic design. We are exploring the world of digital fabrication, and while experience in this world is not a requirement, an ability to learn it is a must. This person will manage the Junior Architectural Designer, and will have a large role in assisting Project Managers with Better Blocks.

Better Block is a new and growing nonprofit, so the position offers the person to have a great deal of influence on the growth of the organization. Projects take place in cities across the U.S., so the position includes frequent travel and work on nights and weekends during project implementation.

Better Block projects are temporary, block-level interventions that demonstrate a series of rapid prototypes. We work with the community, using their tools, knowledge, and resources to revitalize neighborhoods. We often add bike lanes with temporary paint, use digital fabrication and manual processes to construct furniture from plywood and palettes, and activate the space by coordinating markets. Thus, the role is physically demanding, often requiring moving heavy objects and climbing ladders.

### Responsibilities

- Provide technical assistance and support to see tactical urbanism projects to fruition.
- Oversee digital fabrication arm of Better Block, including staff and workshop.
- Ability to produce fabrication drawings for a wide variety of projects under deadlines.
- Create graphic designs for digital and print marketing projects.
- Onsite management of logistics and volunteer workshops during Better Block implementation weeks.
- Working knowledge of CNC routing fabrication processes, woodworking, metalworking, and laser cutting.
- Strong understanding of materials and methods of construction.

### Qualifications

- The Architectural Designer should be passionate about new urbanism and willing to swing a hammer, get paint on his/her clothing, answer volunteers' questions, etc. This position is very hands-on.
- College degree in Architecture, Industrial Design, Furniture Design, Sculpture, or similar degree, and/or training in art and technology, computer/digital art.
- Flexibility with work schedule and day-to-day tasks, as they may change as projects evolve.
- Ability to work independently without much direction, and to make decisions based on Better Block principles and project guidelines.
- Ability to work in a team, delegate tasks, and hold team members accountable for these tasks.
- Demonstrated ability to manage conflicts and resolve problems effectively.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Design skills (Adobe CreativeSuite, Sketch Up, VCarve).
- Ability and willingness to travel up to 25 percent.
- Ability to work in a startup atmosphere where projects must be executed from the ground up.

To apply, email [Krista@betterblock.org](mailto:Krista@betterblock.org) with your résumé, cover letter, and any relevant materials. No phone calls, please.